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RE: AHM Family Resource Center (FRC) Program

Our grandson, who has just turned two, has been attending several of the FRC program activities for the past six months. The weekly Play and Learn group provides an opportunity for him to develop his social skills, as well as explore a wide variety of educational activities and toys. It also allows the parents, grandparents, and caregivers the opportunity to discuss pertinent child rearing issues and share experiences. Can much of this also be accomplished among friends in a less formal play date setting?

Of course — but the Play and Learn program activities and discussions are led by qualified, experienced staff persons who can offer sound, professional advice, and who are also aware of additional resources which are available to address a child's specific needs.

This has been especially important to us, as we were very concerned that our grandson's speech development was far behind what was to be expected for his age. FRC staff provided a house visit for a preliminary evaluation, and recommended him to the Birth to Three Program. We are very pleased to see that he is now making good progress with a speech therapist, and we are grateful to the FRC staff for their assistance.

Our family has also participated in the Music Together program, and we have carried on with what we learned there. Now our grandson and his seven month old little brother enjoy music every day, and often play along with some simple musical instruments.

This past fall we went on a FRC sponsored field trip to a farm, where our grandson was thrilled by a hayride and the up close opportunity to feed some farm animals. We are also looking forward to the Romp and Stomp gross motor activity program, and we have signed up for the Encouraging Positive Discipline, and the Healthy Eating for the Family parent education programs.

Based on our experience, we can say the AHM Family Resource Program provides invaluable opportunities to enrich the lives of children and their families. The various programs and activities which they provide are comprehensive, addressing the social, educational, emotional and physical needs of the child. Participating families are given information and guidance in the process and adventure of child rearing, which will allow them to provide a better foundation for their child's development, happiness, and prospects for future success.

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